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2 **CLAIMS:**

3 1. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable
4 instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method comprising:
5 reducing the scale of a video feed to produce its “thumbnail” video feed;
6 transmitting the thumbnail video feed over a communications network.

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8 2. A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further
9 comprises:
10 receiving a request for the thumbnail version of the video feed,
11 wherein the transmitting is performed in response to such request.

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13 3. A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further
14 comprises preprocessing the video feed to aid in producing a low-resolution
15 version.

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17 4. A computing device comprising:
18 a media-stream transmitter;
19 a medium as recited in claim 1.

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5. A method comprising:
reducing the scale of a video feed to produce its “thumbnail” video feed;
transmitting the thumbnail video feed over a communications network.

6. A method as recited in claim 5, further comprising:
receiving a request for the thumbnail version of the video feed,
wherein the transmitting is performed in response to such request.

7. A method as recited in claim 5, further comprising preprocessing the
video feed to aid in producing a low-resolution version.

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2 8. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable
3 instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method comprising:

4 receiving one or more scaled-reduced versions of video feeds (“thumbnail
5 video feeds) over a communication network;

6 constructing and presenting a user-interface (UI) comprising the one or
7 more thumbnail video feeds.

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9 9. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further
10 comprises requesting one or more thumbnail video feeds.

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12 10. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further
13 comprises presenting audio that corresponds to one of the presented thumbnail
14 video feeds.

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16 11. A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further
17 comprises:

18 receiving a highlight indication for one of the presented thumbnail video
19 feeds;

20 presenting audio that corresponds to that highlighted one of the presented
21 thumbnail video feeds.

1 **12.** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further
2 comprises:

3 requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail
4 video feeds;

5 zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it
6 inhabits much or all of the available screen space.

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8 **13.** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further
9 comprises:

10 receiving a selection request that selects one of the presented thumbnail
11 video feeds;

12 requesting a full-scale version of the select one of the presented thumbnail
13 video feeds;

14 zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it
15 inhabits much or all of the available screen space.

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17 **14.** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the method further
18 comprises:

19 requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail
20 video feeds;

21 zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it
22 inhabits much or all of the available screen space;

23 presenting the full-scale version of the select one of the presented
24 thumbnail video feeds when the full-scale version is received and ready for
25 presentation.

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2 **15.** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the UI that is constructed
3 and presented further comprises information associated with the one or more
4 thumbnail video feeds.

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6 **16.** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the UI that is constructed
7 and presented further comprises electronic program information associated with
8 the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

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10 **17.** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the UI that is constructed
11 and presented further comprises an on-going full-scale video feed.

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13 **18.** A computing device comprising:
14 a media-stream presentation device;
15 a medium as recited in claim 8.

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2 **19.** A method facilitating production of a user-interface (UI), the method
3 comprising:

4 receiving one or more scale-reduced versions of video feeds (“thumbnail
5 video feeds) over a communication network;

6 constructing and presenting a UI comprising the one or more thumbnail
7 video feeds.

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9 **20.** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising requesting one or
10 more thumbnail video feeds.

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12 **21.** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising presenting audio
13 that corresponds to one of the presented thumbnail video feeds.

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15 **22.** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising:
16 receiving a highlight indication for one of the presented thumbnail video
17 feeds;
18 presenting audio that corresponds to that highlighted one of the presented
19 thumbnail video feeds.

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21 **23.** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising:
22 requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail
23 video feeds;
24 zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it
25 inhabits much or all of the available screen space.

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2 **24.** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising:
3 requesting a full-scale version of a select one of the presented thumbnail
4 video feeds;
5 zooming the select one of the presented thumbnail video feeds so that it
6 inhabits much or all of the available screen space;
7 presenting the full-scale version of the select one of the presented
8 thumbnail video feeds when the full-scale version is received and ready for
9 presentation.

10
11 **25.** A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the UI that is constructed
12 and presented further comprises information associated with the one or more
13 thumbnail video feeds.

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15 **26.** A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the UI that is constructed
16 and presented further comprises electronic program information associated with
17 the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

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19 **27.** A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the UI that is constructed
20 and presented further comprises an on-going full-scale video feed.

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22 **28.** A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media
23 having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer,
24 perform the method as recited in claim 19.
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29. A multimedia system comprising:

a receiving unit configured for receiving one or more scaled-reduced version of video feeds (“thumbnail video feeds) over a communication network;

a user-interface (UI) generator configured to generate a UI comprising the one or more thumbnail video feeds;

a presentation device configured for presentation of the UI.

30. A system as recited in claim 29 further comprising a UI selection device configured for the user to either highlight or select the one or more thumbnail video feeds.

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2 **31.** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable
3 instructions that, when executed by a computer, produce a user-interface (UI) of a
4 multimedia system, the UI comprising multiple “thumbnail” display areas, each
5 area configured to display a reduced-scale (“thumbnail”) video feed received via a
6 communications network.

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8 **32.** A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein the UI further comprises
9 at least one information display area configured to display information associated
10 with a corresponding thumbnail video feed.

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12 **33.** A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein the UI further comprises
13 at least one information display area configured to display electronic program
14 guide information associated with a corresponding thumbnail video feed.

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16 **34.** A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein each thumbnail video feed
17 displayed is a separate and distinct video feed.

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19 **35.** A medium as recited in claim 31, wherein the UI further comprises
20 an executable program module configured to respond to user selection of one of
21 the multiple thumbnail display areas.
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